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FIND DEAD BODY OF WESTON FARMER

Benjamin F. Bradbury, who in his early life was a resident of Pontiac but for the major portion of his life a resident of Eppards Point township, was found dead in his home northeast of Weston late Wednesday afternoon, death having occurred from five to six days previous, it is believed.

As far as has been learned thus far the last seen of Mr. Bradbury was on Thursday of last week. His absence was not particularly noticed until the past several days, when neighbors and friends passing by his farm house observed that the mail had not been removed from the rural route mail box in front of his farm home. At first this did not cause any suspicion that something had occurred to the man, it being supposed that he was probably away from home a few days. As his mail accumulated further, his neighbors inquired among themselves as to when Mr. Bradbury had been seen last and as this inquiry progressed they became of the opinion that possibly he was ill and decided to make an investigation of his home.

Late Wednesday afternoon Herman Wink, John Wink, Albert Brown and Chester Blair, being neighbors and friends of Mr. Bradbury, made a trip to his home. Knocking at the kitchen door they received no response and then forced open the door. On the floor they discovered the dead body of Mr. Bradbury. The body lay beside a kitchen chair and from its position it is surmised that he had fallen off the chair either in a sinking condition and had expired as he lay on the floor, or that a sudden attack of the heart had caused his death as he sat in the chair.

Coroner R. J. Harris was notified of the death of Mr. Bradbury late Wednesday evening but on account of the impassable condition of the roads was unable to go to Weston to conduct the inquest. He authorized Undertaker John Cook, of Fairbury, to take charge of the body and remove it to his establishment in Fairbury where an inquest will be conducted by Mr. Harris tomorrow.

Mr. Bradbury was a bachelor and one of the oldest residents of Eppards Point township. He was born in Peoria county, Illinois, July 7, 1857, being a son of Joseph Sanders Bradbury and Mary Mercena Lunt Bradbury. He was next to the youngest of six children who reached years of maturity. His parents having removed to Livingston county during his early life, Mr. Bradbury received his early education in the common schools of this county and for several years he resided in Pontiac attending and graduating from the schools here. Later he attended college at Eureka, taking the full course and graduating from that institution. Securing first a second grade teachers' certificate and later a first grade certificate, he taught school for a number of years, but later turned his activities to agricultural pursuits and spent the greater portion of his life conducting his up-to-date farm in Eppards Point township.

His spare moments he spent in further study and became especially accomplished along many educational lines. During his later years he had devoted much time to the study of astronomy, geography and meteorology for the purpose of preparing an astro-geographical chart on which long range forecasts of the weather could be based with reasonable certainty. In his section he became quite famous for his weather predictions.

His death occurred at the old homestead of his boyhood days and within view of Lakeside district school, of which he had been a director for about 25 years, having acted in the capacity of clerk of the board ever since he was first elected to membership. He was a member of the Modern Woodman of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In matters pertaining to the religious faith his inclination was towards the Quaker belief of his ancestors.

He leaves one sister, Miss Jennie Bradbury, who resides in Kankakee, and a nephew, Robert Bradbury, who resides near Piper City.

The Second Declaration.

CITATION (AGLC STYLE)
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